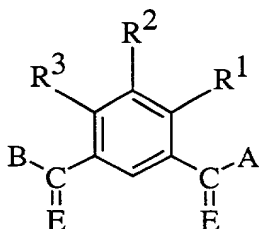


ABSTRACT

Selective MMP-13 inhibitors are isophthalic acid derivatives of the formula



wherein:

R^1 , R^2 , and R^3 independently are hydrogen, halo, hydroxy, C_1 - C_6 alkyl,

C_1 - C_6 alkoxy, C_2 - C_6 alkenyl, C_2 - C_6 alkynyl, NO_2 , NR^4R^5 , CN, or CF_3 ;

E is independently O or S;

A and B independently are OR^4 or NR^4R^5 ;

each R^4 and R^5 independently are H, C_1 - C_6 alkyl, C_2 - C_6 alkenyl, C_2 - C_6

alkynyl, $(CH_2)_n$ aryl, $(CH_2)_n$ cycloalkyl, $(CH_2)_n$ heteroaryl, or R^4 and R^5

when taken together with the nitrogen to which they are attached complete

a 3- to 8-membered ring, optionally containing a heteroatom selected from

O, S, or NH, and optionally substituted or unsubstituted;

n is 0 to 6;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof. The compounds are useful for

treating diseases in a mammal that are mediated by MMP enzymes.